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EDITED BY

EDWARD WALFORD, M.A.,

Formerly Scholar of Balliol College, Oxford, and late Editor of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, "County Families," &c.

"Out of monuments, names, wordes, proverbes, traditions, private recordes, and evidences, fragments of stories, passages of books, and the like, we doe save and recover somewhat from the deluge of time."—*Lord Bacon*.

"Time doth consecrate;
And what is grey with age becomes religion."—*Schiller*.

It is with a firm belief in the above sentiments that THE ANTIQUARY has been projected. In spite of the fact that this age lives so much in the present, worships progress so keenly, and looks forward to further advancement so hopefully, there is in the breast of our "nation of shopkeepers" a deep-seated reverence for antiquity, a *religio loci*, which shows itself in the popular devotion to ancient Art, whether in Architecture, in Painting, in Design, or in Furniture, and in the eager reception accorded to fresh discoveries of relics or works of antiquarian interest, and which finds its expression in the hearty and general welcome accorded year after year to our leading Archaeological Societies when they make their annual excursions and hold their "Congresses" in pleasant places.

It is hoped that a Magazine devoted to the work of cherishing and fostering the antiquarian spirit in the various paths of enquiry and research will meet with the support which it aspires to merit. The *Gentleman's Magazine* has for some time ceased to fill the position which "Sylvanus Urban" once held as the organ of all students of antiquity; and we desire reverently but hopefully to take up the work which he too hastily abandoned.

We shall not, however, allow ourselves to be so restricted in our choice of subjects as was our predecessor half-a-century ago. We have many other questions to discuss which were unknown to our grandfathers, or at all events unappreciated by them. The more intelligent study of History, the wide spread of Art Education, the increased interest felt in the study of local traditions and dialects, as shown in the establishment of Societies for promoting it—these and other causes have enlarged, not only our sphere of knowledge, but also our sympathies.

Our pages will furnish Original Papers on such subjects as fall within the scope of our Magazine, as indicated generally in the following list; and our columns will also be freely open to Correspondence on these and kindred topics:—

ALCHEMY AND WITCHCRAFT.
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On all these subjects we shall endeavour as well to elicit the opinions of others as to teach and supply information ourselves; and we trust that our pages will form a medium of intercommunication between persons of common tastes and pursuits wherever the English language is spoken.

With this object in view, we invite Correspondence from those who have a right to speak on their special subjects because they have studied them deeply and lovingly; and we do not doubt that the result will be acceptable to a large and increasing number of readers. It is hoped that in this respect our efforts will be largely seconded by the Secretaries and Correspondents of Local Societies.

We shall provide a Column for Enquiries on all subjects of antiquarian interest, without in any way trenching on the domain of our pleasant and instructive contemporary, *Notes and Queries*, for whom we feel a love and veneration second only to that which we reserve for the lace coat and ruffles of "Sylvanus Urban." In another column our Subscribers can make known their wants of Scarce Volumes, Engravings, Prints, &c. We shall also give prominence to all information relating to Art Sales, whether past or approaching, while books of an antiquarian and retrospective character will be duly noticed, or reviewed at length.

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